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Press Release

FLAG DAY IN HIALEAH HONORS WAR HEROES

Hialeah, Florida –

Mayor Julio Robaina, the City Council, and various members from the City of Hialeah, joined together on Friday, June 12, 2009, in celebration of Flag Day at Goodlet Adult Center.

Commemorating the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777, the holiday also honors those who have fallen fighting for what the stars and stripes represent. On hand were the Hialeah High School Junior ROTC members who lowered the old flag and replaced it with the new. Also present was a very special guest, Tony Watson, Chaplain, V.F.W. Post No. 8330 who bravely served in WW II. At the ceremony, the war veteran conducted the invocation of the new flag as well as recites the words to TAPS in remembrance of his fallen brothers and the many soldiers who we've lost since then.

Many in attendance seemed moved by the occasion. During a performance of "God Bless America," all stood and waved their mini-American flags in honor of the holiday. Events such as Flag Day remind us to appreciate and value the freedom and opportunities this great nation affords us at the cost of lives. The City of Hialeah is not immune to the tragedies of war and understands the importance of remembering those from our city who made the ultimate sacrifice. At the roll call, one balloon was released per fallen soldier who resided in Hialeah before their deployment and as a symbolic gesture, allowed to float above the crowd as their names were called.

Participating this year along with Chaplain Watson, was the rest of Veteran's of Foreign Wars of the United States, Post No. 8330 members, and the Color Guard who impressed the crowd with a traditional, elegant demonstration.

PHOTOS –

0045 – Hialeah High School Junior ROTC members perform the replacing of the flag during the ceremony Friday.

0065 – From left to right - Tony Watson, Chaplain, V.F.W. Post No. 8330 and MC Luis Fernandez.

0085 – The City of Hialeah esteemed City Council stands alongside Tony Watson, Chaplain, V.F.W. Post No. 8330 and MC Luis Fernandez during the ceremony.